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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/609,126	06/27/2003	Uwe Krueger	34874-162 UTIL	6692
64280 7590 09/24/2007 MINTZ, LEVIN, COHN, FERRIS, GLOVSKY & POPEO, P.C. 9255 TOWNE CENTER DRIVE SUITE 600 SAN DIEGO, CA 92121			EXAMINER KANG, INSUN	
			ART UNIT 2193	PAPER NUMBER
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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

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Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/609,126	Applicant(s) KRUEGER, UWE	
	Examiner Insun Kang	Art Unit 2193	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 11 July 2007.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1, 4-9 and 12-16 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1, 4-9, and 12-16 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1. This action is responding to RCE amendment filed on 7/11/2007.
2. As per applicant's request, claims 1 and 5 have been amended and claims 15 and 16 have been added. Claims 1, 4-9, and 12-16 are pending in the application.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

3. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

4. Claims 15 and 16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claim 15 recites the limitation "the computer-implemented framework" in line 1. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim. Interpretation: the computer- implemented software application framework.

Per claim 16, in line 1, it is unclear whether the claim is dependent on claim 1 as claim 1 is not directed to a method. Interpretation: The method of claim 9.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

5. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant

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for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

6. Claims 1, 4-9, and 12-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Huang et al. ("A General Purpose Virtual Collaboration Room," IEEE, pages 1-10, 10/1999) hereafter "Huang."

Per claim 1:

Huang discloses:

-a virtual object space providing access to a plurality of objects, each object having a set of functionality and being identifiable by a unique identifier provided by the virtual object space (i.e. page 2, right col., paragraph 2) and providing generic object functionality for the plurality of objects (i.e. page 2, right col., paragraph 1) including an associations and transactions functionality for relating objects and interaction between objects (i.e. page 3, section 2. An overview of the VCR, first paragraph, lines 1-7; page 2, right col., paragraph 2); a distribution functionality for locking, flushing, and copying of the virtual object space (i.e. page 9, left col., lines 1-20) ; and persistency functionality for maintaining persistency of the objects (i.e. page 5, right col., section 3.2 Object manipulation, paragraph 4); and a visualization framework for visualizing the plurality of objects independently of an application implementing the object, each object being visualized using the object's unique identifier and according to the object's corresponding set of functionality (i.e. Fig. 1; page 6, right col., second paragraph).

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Per claim 4:

The rejection of claim 1 is incorporated, and further, Huang teaches:

-framework services providing common event handling of the plurality of objects(i.e. page 5, left col., lines 19-22).

Per claim 5:

Huang discloses:

- a virtual object space providing access to a plurality of objects, each object being identifiable by a unique identifier, providing generic object functionality for the plurality of objects(i.e. page 2, right col., paragraph 2) including an associations and transactions functionality for relating objects and interaction between objects (i.e. page 3, section 2. An overview of the VCR, first paragraph, lines 1-7; page 2, right col., paragraph 2); a distribution functionality for locking, flushing, and copying of the virtual object space (i.e. page 9, left col., lines 1-20); and persistency functionality for maintaining persistency of the objects (i.e. page 5, right col., section 3.2 Object manipulation, paragraph 4); a user interface for receiving input from a user relating to a desired arrangement of one or more of the plurality of objects ((i.e. Fig. 1; page 3, left col., section 2. An Overview of the VCR, first paragraph; lines 11-13).

and a visualization framework for visualizing objects according to the desired arrangement, each object being visualized using the object's unique identifier independently of an application implementing the object (i.e. Fig. 1; page 6, right col., second paragraph).

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Per claim 6:

Huang further teaches:

- wherein the user interface further includes allowing a user to browse the plurality of objects independent of one or more applications implementing the objects (i.e. Fig. 1; page 3, left col., second paragraph, lines 1-6).

Per claim 7:

The rejection of claim 5 is incorporated, and further, Huang teaches:

- the desired arrangement is hierarchical(i.e. page 3, section 2. An overview of the VCR, first paragraph, lines 9-11).

Per claim 8:

The rejection of claim 5 is incorporated, and further, Huang teaches:

- the visualization framework includes an object viewer(i.e. page 4, paragraph 2, lines 1-5, 13-19);

Per claim 13:

The rejection of claim 1 is incorporated, and further, Huang teaches:

- providing a portlet to access the generic object functionality to visualize the structure of the plurality of objects(i.e. Fig 1 in page 4).

Per claim 15:

Huang further discloses:

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- implementing the plurality of objects to include a first interface accessible by the framework and a second interface accessible by a service acting as an adapter between the framework and an application separate from the framework (i.e. page 9, right col., lines 1-11; page 10; left col., 21-30).

Per claims 9, 12, 14, and 16, they are the method versions of claims 1, 4, 13, and 15 respectively, and are rejected for the same reasons set forth in connection with the rejection of claims 1, 4, 13, and 15 above.

Response to Arguments

7. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1, 4-9, and 12-16 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Insun Kang whose telephone number is 571-272-3724. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:30-5 PM.


If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, MENG AI AN can be reached on 571-272-3756. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status

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information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

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